



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
Department of Education
Division of Teacher Education, Licensure, and Professional Practice
P. O. Box 2120
Richmond, VA 23218

February 6, 2006

TO: Exemplary Educators
Human Resource Directors
Representatives of Approved Programs at Colleges and Universities
Community College Representatives
Career Switcher Program Providers
Professional Educational Organizations

FROM: Thomas A. Elliott, Assistant Superintendent
Division of Teacher Education, Licensure, and Professional Practice

SUBJECT: Proposals for Workshops at the Third Great Virginia Teach-In

The Virginia Department of Education recently announced the Third Great Virginia Teach-In: A Call to Teach, to be held on Saturday, March 18, 2006, at the Greater Richmond Convention Center in Richmond, Virginia. For complete details on this event, please see Superintendent's Memorandum Number 16, dated January 12, 2006, available on the Department's web site, www.doe.virginia.gov. As part of the Teach-In activities, a series of concurrent workshops will be offered. You are cordially invited to submit a workshop proposal using the enclosed workshop proposal application form. Workshop topics should fit into 45 minute timeslots, and should complement one or more of the following strands:

Exemplary Instructional Practices
School Accountability
Accessible Instructional Materials and Resources
Professional Requirements and Competencies
Exploration of Employment Opportunities

We encourage creative and engaging workshop proposals. The audience at the Teach-In will include future teachers (high school students considering teaching as a career), aspiring teachers (potential teachers in teacher preparation programs, career switchers, arts and sciences graduates), and qualified teachers (fully licensed, new teachers, or current out-of-state teachers ready to enter the classroom).

Successful workshop proposals will elaborate on one or more of the following themes:

American Idol in the Classroom: How to Be the Star of Your Own Show.

Learn the strategies that award-winning teachers use to motivate and coach their students. Create an exceptional classroom environment that provokes curiosity and independent learning. Make positive connections with parents and gain their support and admiration.

School Accountability: Solutions to the Performance Dilemma. Discover how assessment informs instruction. Overcome student performance challenges with proven best practices for reversing underachievement. Excel as an educational leader in a Standards of Learning driven classroom. Understand and master the Annual Yearly Progress agenda set by the No Child Left Behind law. Embrace student testing and reporting as an invitation to success.

Pocketful of Miracles: Free and Inexpensive Teaching Resources. Find the teaching extras that put smiles on faces and pizzazz in the classroom. Employ sensational games, contests, puzzles, stickers, and posters to put an exclamation point on learning. Use clip art, downloadable software, and interactive activities for inspirational teaching that gets amazing results. Get great savings on the things teachers need and take a shortcut on the road to success.

Making the Grade: Essential Assets for a Teaching Career. Gain the knowledge, confidence, and savvy that are crucial to becoming a professional educator. Get expert advice on meeting licensure requirements and keeping up with the shifting demands of professional competency. Determine the skills that are critical to teaching performance. Complete a personal attributes inventory and identify the absolute best ways to accomplish career goals.

If the Shoe Fits: Choose the Best Employment Offer. Differentiate between a strong message and a genuinely satisfying work environment. Compare what different school divisions have to offer. Tap into the state-sponsored mentorship program. Discover the powerful impact of mentorship, collaborative decision-making, and results-driven performance in a setting that places a high value on professional growth. Refocus energy and make the job search worthwhile.

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We encourage you to consider submitting a workshop proposal for the Third Great Virginia Teach-In. Workshop proposal forms should be returned on or before, Wednesday, February 15, 2006, to Rod Clemmons, Office of Professional Practice, by fax: (804) 786-6759 or e-mail: Rod.Clemmons@doe.virginia.gov. Applicants will be notified on or before Wednesday, February 22, 2006, regarding the acceptance of their proposals.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Rod Clemmons in the Office of Professional Practice at (804) 786-7633 or by e-mail.

We look forward to seeing you and your colleagues at the Third Great Virginia Teach-In on Saturday, March 18, 2006. For more information about the Teach-In, please visit our web site at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov>.

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Enclosure